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(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Toru HAYASE et al.

Application No.: 09/931,028

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Examiner: C. L. Anderson

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.